

OTPE JC106
AUG 23 2004
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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August 16, 2004

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1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on
August 16, 2004 .

Suzara A. Maguigad
Suzara A. Maguigad

Suzarah A. Maguigad

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AFTER THE MAILING
OF A FIRST OFFICE ACTION PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)**

08/23/2004 EAREGAY1 00000101 10614571

180.00 OP

I. US PATENT REFERENCES

<u>Document No.</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Date of Publication</u>
A1	5,469,199	US	11/21/1995
A2	5,605,659	US	02/25/1997
A3	5,600,354	US	02/4/1997
A4	5,771,052	US	06/23/1998
A5	5,900,892	US	05/04/1999
A6	6,250,738	US	06/26/2001

II. FOREIGN PATENT REFERENCES

<u>Document No.</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Date of Publication</u>
B1	0034060 EP	EP	08/19/1981
B2	0352468 EP	EP	01/31/1990
B3	0677388 EP	EP	10/18/1995
B4	0786342 EP	EP	07/30/1997
B5	0773108 EP	EP	05/14/1997
B6	98/42514 WO	WIPO	10/01/1998
B7	11-300962 JP	JP	11/02/1999
B8	0914950 EP	EP	11/12/1999
B9	1000746 EP	EP	05/17/2000
B10	0968832 EP	EP	05/01/2000

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. §1.97(g)), an admission that the

information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.

II. RELEVANCE

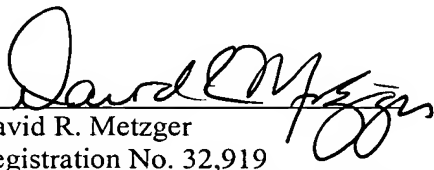
The above-identified references were previously submitted to, or cited by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in an earlier application (U.S. Serial No. 09/910,617, filed July 20, 2001), which is relied on for an earlier effective filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120. Pursuant to §1.98(d), copies of the above-identified references are not submitted herewith.

The information disclosure statement submitted herewith is being filed after the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c). Therefore, Applicants enclose herewith credit card payment form PTO-2038 in the amount of \$180.00 for the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under § 1.97(c).

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to credit overpayments or to charge any deficiency in a required fee to Deposit Account No. 19-3140.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: August 16, 2004

By: 
David R. Metzger
Registration No. 32,919
SONNENSCHN NATH & ROSENTHAL LLP
P.O. Box 061080
Wacker Drive Station, Sears Tower
Chicago, Illinois 60606-1080
(312) 876-8000

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

AUG 23 2004

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	1	of	1
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Complete if Known

Application Number	10/614,571
Filing Date	July 7, 2003
First Named Inventor	Yuichiro Ikemoto
Group Art Unit	2861
Examiner Name	Thinh H. Nguyen
Attorney Docket Number	09792909-5662

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	A1	5,469,199	11/21/1995	Allen et al.	
	A2	5,605,659	02/25/1997	Moynihan et al.	
	A3	5,600,354	02/4/1997	Hackleman et al.	
	A4	5,771,052	06/23/1998	Hine et al.	
	A5	5,900,892	05/04/1999	Mantell et al.	
	A6	6,250,738	06/26/2001	Waller et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document		T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	B1	0034060 EP	08/19/1981	Mead Corp.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	B2	0352468 EP	01/31/1990	Cannon KK		<input type="checkbox"/>
	B3	0677388 EP	10/18/1995	Hewlett Packard Co.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	B4	0786342 EP	07/30/1997	Rohm Co Ltd.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	B5	0773108 EP	05/14/1997	Seiko Epson Corp.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	B6	98/42514 WO	10/01/1998	Seiko Epson Corp.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	B7	11-300962 JP	11/02/1999	Fujitsu Ltd.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	B8	0914950 EP	11/12/1999	Xerox Corp.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	B9	1000746 EP	05/17/2000	Canon Kabushiki Kaisha		<input type="checkbox"/>
	B10	0968832 EP	05/01/2000	Toshiba Tec Kabushiki Kaisha		<input type="checkbox"/>

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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